(v) Dumping of the overburden is being done on the outcrop zones.

(vi) Erection of barbed-wire/wall fencing around pithead depots, static security manning including deployment of armed guards during the night hours.

(vii) Sealing of illegal mining spots is resorted to.

(viii) Stringent action is taken against transport vehicles caught in the act of theft or pilferage.

(ix) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training to new recruits in security discipline are arranged for strengthening the security set up.

(x) Engaging of lady security guard for preventing women and children indulging in theft/pilferage of coal, strengthening of the security discipline by reassessing the requirement of security personnel, horizontal movement of executives with aptitude for security work and inducting qualified security personnel at junior, middle and senior levels.

(xi) Ministry of Coal has been urging from time to time the Coal Producing States to check illegal mining. The State Governments were also advised to consider framing of suitable rules under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation Act, 1957) to strengthen the hands of District Authorities in curbing illegal activities.

(xii) A Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for Coal has been constituted to address the problems of illegal mining of coal.

Pollution in Yamuna

†*254. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Yamuna Development Authority has been set up for cleaning the river Yamuna, wherein all those bodies and people have been included who are associated with its cleaning work in one way or the other;

(b) if so, the reasons for not achieving success in the implementation of the schemes meant for cleaning the river Yamuna so far;

(c) whether any action plan has been drawn after detailed study of the increasing pollution in river Yamuna; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Central Government has decided to constitute a High Powered Committee for Yamuna River Development.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Committee will be chaired by the Lieutenant Governor, Delhi with Chief Minister of Delhi as Vice-chair and the following members;

Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development
Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests
Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources
Chief Secretary, Government of NCT of Delhi
Principal Secretary, Urban Development, Government of NCT of Delhi
Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Jal Board
Vice Chairman; Delhi Development Authority

(b) The quality of water in Yamuna river has not shown the desired improvement, particularly in Delhi, due to enormous increase in pollution load and lack of fresh water in the river during lean period. Implementation of the river pollution abatement works is an ongoing and continuous activity based upon the estimated pollution loads. Due to ever-increasing population, leading to increased pollution load, and gap in the availability of financial resources, there is persistent divergence between the pollution load tackled and the actual pollution load.

(c) and (d) To prevent increasing pollution in the Yamuna river, two Action Plans have been launched by the Government of India. The Yamuna Action Plan (YAP) Phase-I was started in April, 1993 in the three States of UP, Delhi and Haryana covering 15 towns at an estimated cost of Rs. 715 crore. The project with funding from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) was completed in February, 2003. A total of 269 schemes of pollution abatement were completed including 38 sewage treatment plants having additional treatment capacity of 753.25 million litres per day (mld) of which 401.25 mld in U.P., 322 mld in Haryana and 30 mld in Delhi.

YAP Phase-II was started in December, 2004 also with JBIC funding. The project was approved for the three States of Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh at an estimated cost of Rs. 624 crore. The major items of work to be implemented under YAP Phase-II include rehabilitation of trunk sewers and works of sewage treatment plants in Delhi, construction of sewage treatment plants and rehabilitation of sewer lines/rising mains in U.P., interception and diversion of sewer lines and improvement in the efficiency of existing sewage treatment plants in Haryana.

In addition to the above Action Plan, the State Governments of Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh have also taken up non-sewerage, sewerage and sewage treatment works out of their own plan funds.

Sea-worthiness of ships and boats

*255. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government expect an increase in the number of ships and ocean plying vessels using Indian ports over the next ten years;

(b) whether Director-General of Shipping is the sole maritime authority to determine "sea-worthiness" of all vessels flying the Indian flag or using Indian ports as a base;